

macdonald **FARM** journal



Farming Partnership
Automated Soil Testing
April 1965

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THE MACDONALD LASSIE

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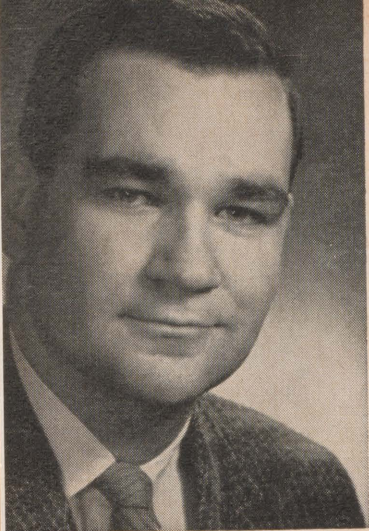
NUMBER 4

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OUR COVER: No, this is not a picture of Gulliver in the land of Lilliput. It is one of the exhibits at the Macdonald Royal showing the construction of a gambrell roof barn. Photograph by Kenneth Bowe, Montreal.



INSIDE

THE EDITOR'S COLUMN

MARCHE, MARCHONS, MARCHEZ . . .

WHAT WILL Quebec agriculture be like in 1975?

That depends on many things. If people were half as smart as some machines appear, then it would be fairly easy to answer that question. But men aren't machines so the future of agriculture can only be an educated guess.

In Quebec, if government statements during the first part of 1965 are any indication, it will be an exciting future for agriculture. Up until recently, it was generally thought that the only place that one could rear a Christian family was on a farm. This has changed and now Quebec farmers are impatiently waiting for statements from the government on such things as taxation, farm management assistance, marketing of farm products and the development of export markets for food products. It appears that the Quebec Department of Agriculture is currently in a "time of preparation for achievement". They need support and if their program is sufficiently diverse to solve the many problems that are present in Quebec agriculture, they will get this support. If, however, the government waits for Ottawa to make a move and if the heirarchy of the Quebec Department of Agriculture does not capitalize on the farmers' current motivation to have a better life, then it will be too late. Agriculture will be in a worse mess than it is at the present time. That will be bad.

In February, a "palace revolution" was announced by the Quebec Department of Agriculture. It involved the appointment of Mr. Romeo Lalande and Mr. Jean-Baptiste Bergevin as top-notch administrators to assist Deputy Minister Dr. Ernest Mercier. The Department has grouped the 30 services administered under the Department of Agriculture into three general categories: rural development, extension and research and teaching. While it's only natural to expect major changes in government departments from time to time, this one seems to be in preparation for better things to come.

Then, too, there was the Throne Speech in Quebec. Never before has agriculture received the emphasis it did in this year's opening of parliament. Never before has there been the amount of discussion in the provincial legislature spurred on by the tabling of a "white paper" by the Minister of Agriculture.

Education is presently receiving considerable healthy discussion in Quebec. Let's hope that a similar exchange of ideas will apply to agriculture this year. With the proper discussion, maybe then we'll be able to find out why it's easier to buy British Columbia apples and New Zealand lamb in Quebec stores than the local product. Maybe then a serious attack will be made on the real problems of agriculture . . . an attack involving more than words. Maybe then Quebec agriculture could set an example for Ottawa that is represented by the kind of stand-offishness that the Canada Department of Agriculture has in relation to ARDA and the lack of involvement in what could be a major tool in agricultural development and evolution.

It is an exciting era for agriculture in Quebec and we hope that the best is made of it. Quebec farmers are like nestlings waiting for the occasional crumb to fall into their yearning mouths so that they can mature and take their place beside the spectacular development going on in Quebec industry and education.

We believe people are anxious to cooperate in any way they can to solve the Quebec farmers' dilemma. It is going to take bold new policies and strong leadership. The day is here. The spotlight is swinging toward agriculture. A new, fresh wind is blowing from the legislature in Quebec. It's truly exciting.

Mark Waldron

by Prof. F. Isabel Honey,
School of Household Science,
Macdonald College



Subject Promotion In Home Economics Part II

LAST MONTH Miss Findlay wrote about some of the effects of the institution of "Subject Promotion" on the teaching of Home Economics in our High Schools. She showed that we cannot hope to teach in the old way if we have periods of only 40 to 50 minutes instead of approximately an hour and a half.

Let us consider now how subject promotion may affect the number of pupils who elect Home Economics and also the climate of the classroom itself. Considering the latter part of the statement first, I venture to predict that with the "good" teacher the climate will be improved, that is, there will be greater interest and better work on the part of the pupils.

Why do I say this? When pupils come to the Home Economics classroom once a week, interest is lost — in some cases to such an extent that they have forgotten the work of the previous week. When the class meets daily interest is not only maintained but increases. The informality of many of the learning activities in Home Economics gives opportunity for dealing with pupils individually and in small groups, thereby bringing about better understanding between pupils and teacher. Where this goes on daily instead of

once a week, the advantage is compounded.

No change in objectives

Our objectives remain the same with this new method of teaching. We wish our pupils to become mature individuals, learning to live with their families as self directing adults, developing a realistic attitude toward money, work and a vocation. That is, we as teachers want to help each and every pupil meet his or her developmental needs. Home Economics has for too long been thought of as cooking and sewing. But with these objectives in view Home Economics has much to offer. We cannot say that any subject of our curriculum is "The" important one. They are all important and all work toward the development of the mature, integrated person who must live in this ever-changing world.

At higher levels Home Economics can lead to vocational competency but, at the secondary school level, it can aid in meeting the present needs of the adolescent and contribute to desirable personality growth and to the satisfaction of basic needs. Less than one fifth of those who begin school go on past High School and we must offer as rich a programme as possible to our secondary school pupils.

Wide choice in courses

With subject promotion, where each pupil progresses at her own speed, there would be more opportunity for pupils to elect Home Economics at least for one year. We should offer wide choice in units of work. Many pupils would then place Home Economics in their individual schedules. The pupil to whom food preparation or/and clothing construction is anathema could then elect the subject of her interest, for example consumer education.

Such subjects as "Consumer Buying", "Furnishing Your Home", "Managing Your Income" would attract the boys as well as the girls. The curriculum could even be extended to include courses designed to offer preparation for employment. Such courses might be "The Baby Sitter", "The After-school Assistant for Family Dinner Service" or "The Summer Hotel House-keeping Aide."

Thus, with subject promotion, each and every pupil would have the opportunity to limit or expand his programme in Home Economics. The new approach and the new climate in the classroom would result in greater interest in Home Economics and so in greater enrolment.

Increasing farm capitalization makes it more difficult each year for a young man to start farming. This is how Clifford and Ross Oswald found a solution in partnership



This sugar cabin was first being built when the Oswald Farm was featured on the CBC television program "Country Calendar".

PARTNERS FOR PROSPERITY

by Walker Riley

WHEN A FARM has been in a family for 150 years, it has a worth far beyond its cash sale value. This was one thought which stimulated Clifford and Ross Oswald, Ste. Scholastique, Quebec, into forming a legal father-and-son partnership two years ago.

It was Ross's great great grandfather, a colonel in the Argenteuil Cavalry, who first purchased Hill Farm. Family history relates that the young Scottish lord sold his first farm, which is now part of Montreal's Sherbrooke Street and relocated in the County of Two Mountains between Montreal and Lachute.

Over the years, the colonel acquired 11 farms in all, and at one time had 30 men working for him. On his death, he was buried in the yard of the little

brick Presbyterian church which he helped to build and which still stands in the village of Fresniere. His property was divided among several sons. Thus it was that, three generations later, Hill Farm came into the possession of Clifford Oswald, the senior member of the present partnership.

The farm prospered

Under the skilled stewardship of Clifford and his wife Mary, the farm and its family grew and prospered. The registered Ayreshire herd won its share of ribbons at the fairs; the chicks from their own hatchery were in steady demand; honey bees and market hogs added to the farm revenue; the sugar bush became known as one of the best in the area. Two sons and a daughter, Ross, John and Joan, shared

the work, the responsibility and the fun.

Hill Farm (now called Cliff-hill Farm) had been chosen well. Its 180 arpents (160 acres) climb gently from the clay fields at the front, back through fertile rolling loam soils to the maple sugar bush at the rear. The main house, the third to be built on the same site, beautiful and comfortable with its stone fireplace and picture windows, commands a splendid view over the valley to the two mountains for which the county was named. Near it has been built a second house, a snug brick cottage. To the west, are the white painted barns with their twin silos.

Farm program modified

But change is constant. The shortage of good help and the resulting need to specialize have brought modifications to



Maple syrup, logs and pulpwood from the 45 acre woodlot add to the Oswalds' farm income. Basswood bring a good price on the local market but the beech (with leaves still on) is considered a weed.

the farm program. The laying flock, the hatchery, the bees and the pigs have been dropped. The dairy herd has been increased to 65 head; there are plans to increase floor space still further. The sugar bush now carries 3500 buckets; plastic pipe line is being tried; the new sugar cabin will have running water and electricity. The farm income has trebled in the last 15 years.

Joan, now married, is living in near-by Lachute. John, with a diploma in agriculture, is working for the Canada Department of Agriculture. Ross, the junior member of the partnership, and his wife Eileen are living in the cottage on the farm.

There have been other important changes, too. Capital values of the land and business have increased to the point that succession duties could seriously interrupt the farm business. No longer could a legal will be relied on to transfer this valuable heritage to the next generation. With the increasing demands of modern living, it was necessary that the two families have a fair and equitable cash income from the farm.

A partnership formed

And so it was that Clifford and Ross sought ways to set up a satisfactory

farm business arrangement. Many hours were spent with their accountant and in the office of their notary in Lachute, studying partnerships, companies, rental arrangements. They sought the advice of many others. Their chosen solution, a partnership tailored to their needs, has attracted much attention.

For the benefit of others, we asked Clifford and Ross to go over the steps in forming a partnership. Clifford was quick to reply, "They must first be sure they can get along together. If a father and son can't agree before, they are not likely to after." Ross brought out a second essential point, "The farm business must be big enough to support two families, with a bit of leaway," he stated. "A partnership isn't going to solve the problem of insufficient income."

Three basic steps

Then there are the three basic parts of the business transaction — the sale (Ross bought an undivided one-half interest in all land, buildings and stock, to be paid for in instalments), wills made by all members of the family, and finally, the operating agreement.

The agreement was drawn up to cover all possible sources of misunderstanding in the future. A separate bank

account was opened for the farm; each partner draws a reasonable allowance for family use. All bookkeeping is turned over to an accountant who completes the annual statement and makes up the income tax returns for less than \$50 a year. The total legal costs for setting up the partnership were only \$180.

Active in community

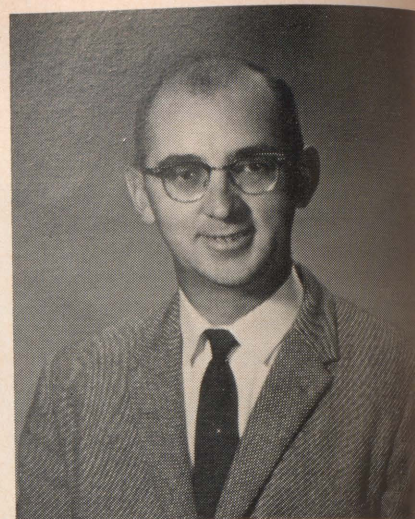
Clifford and Ross seem well satisfied with their partnership arrangement. Even without hired help, they are able to find time to take their part in community affairs. Clifford is active in many agricultural organizations. He is, for example, president of the Quebec Livestock Breeders Association, and in 1963 was manager of the Canadian entry in the World Ploughing match. Ross gives a great deal of time to Farm Forum (he was provincial president at one time) and to calf club work. In the farm office, among many other trophies and honours, hangs the Order of Agricultural Merit and Silver Medal of the Province of Quebec.

In many ways, the story of the Oswalds is not so different from that of many pioneer families where the farm has been proudly handed down from generation to generation. Many fathers and sons realize the increasing need for a formal business arrangement to ensure continuity. But here is where their story is different. They did something about it; they know the future of the farm and their families is secure.

The Oswalds tap 3,500 maple trees. Here Clifford (left) and Ross examine one of their new aluminum buckets.



***The possibility that the
practical production
of hybrid wheat may become
a reality is a
challenge to the breeder,
the seed-grower and the
farmer***



HYBRID WHEAT — FACT OR FANCY?

Professor H. R. Klinck
Agronomy Department, Macdonald College

HYBRID CORN, hybrid onions, hybrid petunias, hybrid chickens — these have become household words. Hybrid varieties have been widely accepted and their value is undisputed.

Then why not hybrid wheat? It is on the way!

For many years plant breeders have been making wheat hybrids as a first step in the process of developing better varieties. By crossing two varieties they have attempted to combine the desirable characteristics of each into a new and improved variety. Such a procedure has been remarkably successful over the years, resulting in such well-known varieties as Selkirk and Thatcher in western Canada, Genesee, Talbot and others in the east. These have all been derived from "hand made" hybrids.

Wheat is normally self-pollinated, pollination taking place within each flower independent of external influences. In the traditional way of making hybrids the breeder must remove the male parts before pollen is shed, then introduce pollen from another variety, a tedious operation. The wheat kernel which develops will produce a hybrid plant. Obviously, such hand made hybrids cannot be produced on a commercial scale.

Japanese Discoveries

Recent discoveries by Japanese scientists of cytoplasmic male sterility and

fertility restorer mechanisms in wheat may change the whole procedure in the not-too-distant future.

Cytoplasmic male sterile plants are unable to produce living pollen, thus we have true female plants. This condition can only be carried from one generation to the next through the female plant. No seed is produced on these plants unless pollen from other plants is available at flowering time. Since the sterility is carried by the female plant, seed produced from such cross pollinations would again produce female plants, which would in turn require outside pollen for seed production. This could create problems in growing such a wheat crop on the farm.

Fertility Restoration

The discovery of the fertility restorer mechanism may overcome these problems. Fertility restoration is carried by genes in the pollen-supplying (male) plants. This overrules the cytoplasmic male sterility character of the female plants and restores normal fertility to the next generation, the hybrids.

By using these mechanisms the breeder can literally turn off pollen production and turn it on again when necessary.

The male sterility and fertility restorer mechanisms occur only in wild

relatives of wheat. Before they can be used, breeders must transfer them to our common wheat varieties. Some of this has been done already. Even then not all hybrids will produce higher yields, so many hybrids will have to be developed and tested to find useful ones.

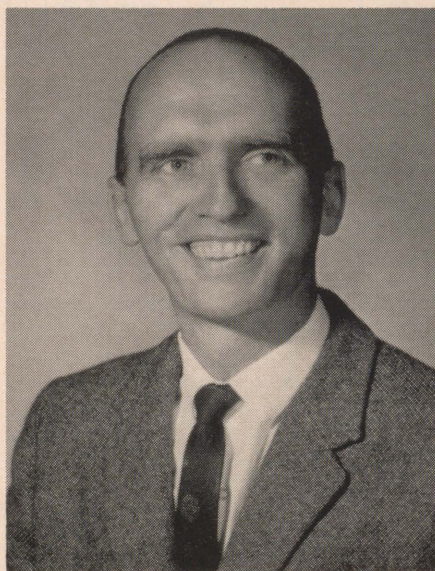
There are other problems, too. No one knows at present how well the theory will work in practice. The idea is too new. No one knows yet how dependable the mechanisms will be under different climatic conditions or cultural practices, or how varieties compare in their ability to shed pollen that can be spread to female plants.

Hybrid wheat will only be advantageous to the farmer if it yields significantly more than our present varieties, and if this increase in yield more than offsets the additional costs involved in obtaining hybrid wheat seed. The farmer would have to purchase new seed each year, as he does now with hybrid corn, or suffer a loss of yield the following year.

The chances are that we will one day be growing hybrid wheat. When? 1970? 1980? No one can be sure. But the mere possibility that the practical production of hybrid wheat may become a reality is a challenge to the breeder, the seed grower and the farmer.

Automated Soil Testing — A New Service from Macdonald College

by
Dr. A. F. Mackenzie,
Dept. of Soil Science,
Macdonald College



ATOMIC PHYSICISTS talk about the Nuclear Age, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration talks about the Space Age; in agriculture, we are entering the High Yield Age. As never before, the agriculture producer is going to have to know how to use his soils, his crops and his animals for the highest yield, simply to stay in business. Yet in each of these phases, production is becoming more complex with every passing day. The producer has to know more about his soil, more about his crops, and more about his animals than was dreamed of ten years ago.

No one can have all this basic information at his fingertips, and as a result, we have had another age descend on us — the Age of the Consultant. Consultants are springing up on all sides, in all fields, and now in all industries. Although we do not particularly like the word "consultant", this is what we are becoming in the Department of Soil Science at Macdonald College, for here we are beginning to set up, on a routine basis, a soil testing scheme to allow you to consult with us on the proper fertilizers required for your soil and for your particular crops.

Until recently, this has been carried out on a very limited basis by the Department because of a lack of funds for the complex equipment required for such tests. However, your increasing demand has forced us to take a second look at the whole procedure. As a result, the Department of Soils at Macdonald College is now gearing for Space Age soil testing.

This, however, is not an overnight decision. The data required to calibrate soil tests has been obtained over a number of years by an extensive field testing program, carried out mainly by the Department of Agronomy and Department of Soil Science. Calibration of the soil tests is not by any means completed, however, but as each year's experimental results are processed, as the results are calculated and evaluated, they will be used to improve and perfect the soil tests now being planned at Macdonald College. The long years of experimental work are at last to yield

very tangible results for Quebec farmers.

Soil testing techniques

Soil testing is not new, of course. Probably the first soil tests of a precise nature were carried out 125 years ago by the German chemist, Liebig. Unfortunately, his technique was based mainly on theoretical ideas, and did not work in the field. Later, Mitscherlich about 1900 proposed an improved method of relating field growth to soil tests, a method that is still used by many research workers. The real expansion in soil testing has occurred since 1945.

Soil testing is carried out by government agencies, university laboratories, fertilizer companies and private consulting firms. The demand for soil

testing has increased, so that laboratories are being used to a greater extent than ever before. We feel at Macdonald College that we will be able to help meet the demand for soil tests in Quebec, and serve a useful function to the agricultural industry as a whole.

The main reason that the demand for soil tests has increased so markedly in the last few years is because soil testing pays. Recent information from the Ontario Agricultural College shows that for each dollar spent on fertilizing wheat, \$1.80 was returned where soil test recommendations were followed. Where the general recommendation was followed, only \$1.25 was returned per dollar spent on fertilizer.

This increased return from soil test comes in two ways. The first way is that unneeded fertilizers are not applied to the soil; thus, the cost of production is reduced considerably. Secondly, the soil test may indicate that more fertilizer is required than you are using. In this case, added fertilizer will earn a larger income by increasing crop yields, and as a result, soil testing again will pay off.

Soil tests for gardeners

For the gardener, soil tests will be very useful. Liming, fertilizers and other practices can be recommended for the city "farmer" as well. Eventually, we hope to expand our services to include tree fruit recommendations and other specialties.

How are we going to do the soil tests here at Macdonald College? Because of our position as an independent laboratory, we have to charge to cover the cost of the services. This means that anyone wanting a soil test will send in \$4.00 to Soil Testing, Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, and in return, will receive a kit with all the instructions for obtaining a soil sample, and all the equipment for returning the soil sample to the laboratory.

The unique feature of the Macdonald test is that both a surface soil sample and a subsoil sample will be needed. This is because, in many cases, maxi-

(continued on page 11)

A CRISIS IN PRICES OF WHEAT

by Prof. David L. MacFarlane,
Professor of Agricultural Economics,
Macdonald College

Considerable concern has been expressed over the current world wheat situation. Professor MacFarlane expresses his "Viewpoint" on wheat prices in this article which is based on a television commentary by Prof. MacFarlane on February 2, 1965.

PERHAPS THE MOST striking feature of the recent disturbance in wheat prices is that it did not come sooner. Nineteen sixty-four saw the largest world wheat harvest in history; and in 1965 world export demand is receding from record 1964 levels. Some price adjustment was inevitable.

There has been a world over-supply of wheat for years. If Russia and China had not entered the market as very large importers over the past two years, the favourable levels of prices could not have been maintained.

Canada has indeed been fortunate in the magnitude of her wheat exports in the past two years. The fact that price has been maintained at high and stable levels represents a combination of good fortune and good management.

The pricing of wheat by a single monopolist like the Canadian Wheat Board is, at best, difficult. Add to this the necessity of watching and adjusting to the pricing policies of three other boards in the traditional major exporting countries. I refer to the United States, Australia and Argentina. Then the task confronted by the Canadian Wheat Board becomes formidable.

These four countries dominate the export wheat market. There has been consultation on wheat marketing, but certainly no sellers' conspiracy. The power of some 20 to 30 important buying countries prevents that. But the consortium of exporters worked well

Australian and Argentine crops this

year are extremely large — at or near record levels. They plan to export very large quantities in 1965. In fact, it is said that Australia started the softening up process on wheat prices. Then Canada made downward price adjustments on certain low grades in a large sale on its contract with China. The United States, forbidden by law to sell wheat to China, followed with general downward price adjustments. This sparked further declines in an effort to be competitive with the United States.

Now it is believed that the "little price war" is at an end. Any further price adjustments should be upward, particularly for the higher grades of Canadian wheat.

Last week's price adjustments do not suggest a return to the full play of free market forces. Neither exporters nor im-

porters want that. Both want a good measure of stability in prices.

Many people are looking for someone to blame for falling prices, but there is no villain. A basic change in production and demand conditions required some price adjustment. And now we have had it.

The real problem or difficulty is that a price adjustment may not lead to a more rational production situation. Farmers in the United States, Australia and the Argentine are essentially insulated by subsidies from the effects of world price adjustments. Only the Canadian farmer is exposed to their influence.

This raises the question: should the Canadian farmers alone bear the brunt of market forces, or should the government intervene? The Canadian Federation of Agriculture has already suggested one answer: a subsidy. For all export countries to subsidize, without clear production restraints, is to move into a never-never land. You just can't do it. Even the United States with its high subsidy programme, curtailed acreage drastically in the past several years. This is accepting responsibility in food supply management. Without responsibility on the part of all major exporters, we could have a chaotic situation.

Canada's wheat programme, with reliance on market forces, gets high marks from the economist. Forces operating on production and demand have brought on the price adjustments. I



rather feel that for the present Canada should accept the facts of life.

We should remember that Canada went through similar readjustments in 1953 and 1954 when prices to farmers slumped about 25 cents a bushel. It required some years to secure stability at a favourable level of prices. It was a painful, but likely a wise course. And the Federal Government found other means of insuring farm income when the necessity arose.

One thing I must stress: the 12 to 20-cent price reduction greatly exaggerates the effect on farmers' incomes. When the settlement for the 1964 crop is made, the price reduction will likely be in the five to eight cent range. This means something like 30 to 40 million dollars on the 1964 crop. Or it means something like 500 to 600 dollars for a farmer with 400 acres of wheat. Against the incomes of the past two years, farmers would likely feel that this could be absorbed. If the income picture should worsen much more than that, the Federal Government would very likely act.

To attempt to make political capital out of these recent events by attacking the Canadian Wheat Board and the government is stupid, cynical and mischievous. It renders a dis-service to the Canadian farmer. Without present Canadian Wheat Board policies, we should all be worse off.

AUTOMATED SOIL TESTING

(continued from page 9)

mum yields of crops are related to the nitrogen content in the top three feet of soil. As a result, we have to have a subsoil sample for our nitrogen test.

When the soil sample arrives at Macdonald College, the number of the sample will be recorded, along with the name and address of the sender. The sample will be dried and crushed, and will then be extracted for the particular nutrients — in this case, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. In addition, soil acidity and lime requirement will be determined. Soil texture and soil organic matter will be determined to increase the precision of the fertilizer recommendation. When all the analytical data is in from the laboratory, then the interpretation of the soil tests is carried out. This is the "pay-off" for any soil test, because it is here that background information, along with soil test results, is used for the best possible recommendation.

Most farmers who have soil samples taken and analyzed are in the top 30%. They expect to obtain much better yields through the recommendations obtained. Today's farmer has to receive fertilizer recommendations for the top economic yield. Also, at the same time, the soil test will give a good opportunity for making suggestions on other management problems, such as

suitable rotations, estimates of drainage needs, etc. In all cases suggestions will be aimed at the highest possible yield that will give maximum returns to the agricultural producer.

Three day system

With our automated laboratory and the use of efficient testing procedures, it is hoped that a three-day system can be set up. The soil samples will be received on the first day and processed. On the second day, the actual analysis will be obtained, and on the third day the results will be interpreted and mailed out to the grower. This speed should give the grower a considerable amount of flexibility in the determination of fertility requirements. It will not be necessary to decide the previous fall the crop that will be grown in the spring.

However, it should be noted here that probably the best time for soil testing is in the fall when crop growth has removed some of the more readily available nutrients from the soil, and the ability of the soil to supply fertilizer nutrients is more adequately determined.

So, for the price of three or four extra bushels of corn, or ten extra bushels of oats, you can have your soil tested by the most efficient, most up-to-date, and most useful techniques that are currently known to the research people at Macdonald College.

WHAT'S NEW IN FILMS?

"SUPERMARKETS AND THE FARMER"

Time was when the farmer knocked on your door and you bargained for the food he offered... Now you and the farmer go to the supermarket but never meet.

This film is about food and the food dollar. It examines what's in it for the farmer who grows the food; what's in it for you the consumer, and for the vendor you meet at the cash register. In the film you see the typical supermarket and also the new, co-operative supermarkets of the prairies where farmers and consumers have regained direct contact through a store that is owned by both and serves the interest of both.

How does a supermarket usually operate and what does it do for the farmer who sells it his produce in bulk, and for the consumer who buys it neatly and attractively packaged? What control has the farmer over the price he gets? What control has the consumer over the price he pays?

To answer these questions you meet some knowledgeable people — heads of food store chains, economists worried by concentration of power in large stores, farmers bewildered by the rapid turn of events, housewives organized against "come-on" selling, small storekeepers angered by competition they cannot meet.

What the film says and shows may surprise you, help you to shop with a wiser, more alert eye, make you wonder if the old way of direct farmer-to-consumer selling wasn't the best. It presents many and varied points of view but the conclusions are up to you.

16mm. *Black & White*
Running time: 30 minutes

Produced by the National Film Board of Canada. May be borrowed from the Extension Film Library, Macdonald College. Service charge \$1.00 — transportation charges extra.

LET'S LOOK AT WEEDS

Weeds, favoured by nature to win the struggle for survival, cause annual crop losses amounting to millions of

dollars. "Let's Look at Weeds" turns the spotlight on the enemies of our grain fields and market gardens. Close-up camera studies and time-lapse photography permit detailed observation of some of the most noxious species.

Wild oats, couch grass, tumbling mustard, tartary buckwheat, goldenrod, wild carrot, ox-eye daisies and many other varieties are shown in relation to the cultivated crops they invade. The film reveals how each, through a process of natural selection, has evolved mechanisms enabling it to persist, to spread its kind far and wide — and to come out the victor in the competition for growing space.

But modern agricultural technology has shown the farmer how to fight back. Herbicides which kill weeds but do not affect crop plants are demonstrated, as well as crop rotation and cultivation methods.

16mm. Colour Running time: 19 minutes
Produced by the National Film Board of Canada

May be borrowed from the Extension Film Library, Macdonald College. Service charge \$1.00 — transportation charges extra.

Compiled by T. Pickup of the Information and Research Service,
Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization.

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Organization of ARDA in the province of Quebec

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Heart disease and diet — Drainage of the soil

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
OMER BEAUDOIN



On the way to the barn; dairy cows belonging to Mr. Maurice Vezina at St. Michel, Bellechasse.

DAIRY FARMING IN QUEBEC

From a speech by Dr Ernest Mercier to members of Dairy Queen's Operations during their Convention at Quebec on February 16th, 1965.

DAIRY FARMING has been, is, and likely always will be the number one contributor to cash agricultural income in Quebec.

There are four major reasons for developing this industry.

1 — The Quebec agricultural industry is already oriented to dairying. The investments in farm buildings and processing plants are high, and industries like Granby, Carnation and some others are already geared to increase their output;

2 — The industrialization of Quebec will call for some intensification in the field of food production. Although the land suitable for special crops is limited to some degree, large areas of grassland are adaptable to dairy production. It must be remembered that the dairy cow will bring in from two to five times more income per year than the beef cow. Granted that dairying requires more labour and capital than beef cattle production, nevertheless dairying is likely the last segment of agriculture in which vertical integration will make significant inroads;

3 — Quebec farms are small and the average size (about 150 acres) will not increase rapidly in areas adjacent to good markets;

4 — The Quebec climate, with its fairly high, well-distributed summer rainfall, is very suitable for dairying. The adequate liming and fertilization of pasture on dairy farms, is still one of the most profitable investments our farmers can make.

Subsidies are necessary

One must remember that subsidies to the dairy industry are necessary if one wants the consumer to keep on getting at a reasonable price that most

healthy and nourishing food — milk and its products. Gross Government subsidy to the dairy industry represents, per hundred of pounds of milk, about 57 cents in Germany, 51 cents in the United States, 36 cents in France and 31 cents in Canada.

Can we urge the farmers to reduce their costs of production, to improve the quality of their milk — which means the building of a milk-house and probably the purchase of refrigerating equipment — while they are getting a decreasing share of the consumer's dollar spent on dairy products produced in Canada? This explains why the Quebec Marketing Board has increased by about 20 cents per hundred pounds the price the farmer receives for milk sold for fluid consumption and why government is paying a subsidy of 10 cents per pound of butterfat on manufacturing milk during the present winter.

Conclusions

A long-term dairy policy is being studied at the national level. Quebec and Ontario are greatly interested in the final outcome because they have great stakes in the dairy industry. Dairy farming will remain, for many years to come, I am sure, the number-one contributor to cash farm income in this province. The industrial expansion of Quebec means an expanding market for dairy products. Furthermore, dairy processing is geared to transform a production which is well adapted to the family farm, the soil, and the climate of Quebec. However, the industry will not become healthy unless there is an improvement in the price of manufacturing milk to the producers. Then the Government will be in a better position to implement the federal regulations on quality and sanitation of milk and dairy products. The task is not going to be easy but it will have to be done with the help of all those concerned to consolidate the dairy industry in Quebec.

SWINE PRIZES — QUEBEC

Winners of the 1963 R.O.P. for swine in the province of Quebec were announced at the Annual Meeting of the Quebec Swine Breeders Association held in Quebec City on January 20th. The winning producers, listed below, received prize money donated by the

Quebec members of the Meat Packers Council.

Clément Miville, St.-Pamphile

— 1st prize (both federal and provincial programs)

Eugène Chalifour, St.-Nicolas Sta.

— 2nd prize (federal program)

Philippe Leblanc, St. Léonard

— 2nd prize (provincial program)

Régent Lafond, Ste. Perpétue

— 2nd prize (provincial program)

(From "Facts, Figures, Comment", Meat Packers Council of Canada, Vol. 15, No. 3)



Andrée Rousseau admires oxeye daisies, attractive flowers or noxious weeds according to your point of view

TWO NEW PUBLICATIONS

Anybody who knows the popular name — English or French — of a weed or harmful insect found in Quebec and wants to know its scientific name; or, knowing the scientific name, wishes to know what to call the pest (politely but accurately) in English or French; or has to translate the French name into English or vice versa, will welcome two books recently issued by the Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization.

Publication 288, "*Noms des Mauvaises Herbes du Québec*", prepared by Maurice Ferron and Richard Cayouette of the Research Service (Division of Botany and Plant Pathology) assisted by Mlle M. Caron, is designed to help people find the correct names of weeds they wish to control. In view of the selective nature of some modern her-

bicides this is an important first step. The book has been very carefully compiled and edited, and is clearly and attractively presented.

Publication 295, "*French Names of Insects of Canada*", prepared by a Committee of the Quebec Society for the Protection of Plants which includes J. A. Doyle of the Department of Agriculture and Colonization and Dr. O. Morrison of Macdonald College, is the third edition of a useful work which has been revised and augmented by the Committee in co-operation with taxonomists of the Entomology Research Institute of Canada.

Copies of these publications may be obtained free of charge from the Information Division of the Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization, Parliament, Quebec, P.Q.

MORE MARKET HOGS

At the annual general meeting of swine-breeders held recently in the Victoria Hotel at Quebec, the farmers present resolved to do everything in their power to increase and improve their production. Methods proposed included better choice of breeding stock, feeding programmes more closely adapted to requirements, and shipment of hogs for slaughter when they are well finished to suit market requirements.

The president of the Quebec Swine Breeders' Association, Mr. Marcel Sylvestre of St-Hyacinthe, reviewed the past year's activities. About a hundred pig-raisers from all parts of Quebec listened to experts who dealt with important topics and problems of this branch of livestock-rearing.

Quebec has to import about 200,000 market hogs a year. Hog-raisers wish to take the necessary steps to gradually reduce this gap in our production — taking into account fluctuations in net returns to producers.

Advance Registry of swine must be continued and the number of those who practise it must be considerably increased. The best breeding lines must be found so that owners of sows can be offered highly qualified, breeding animals. "Improve breeding and reduce production costs" should be the two aims of those who raise pigs: the co-operation and good will of all concerned are needed to achieve them.

The Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonisation has assistance policies for the benefit of pig-raisers, and county agronomes and specialists in swine husbandry are available to explain the conditions of these policies.

Mr. X. N. Rodrigue was re-elected secretary of the Association for another term.

This page supplied in the interests of the Family Farm by the Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization.

POULTRY DIVISION APPOINTMENT

OTTAWA, January 9, 1965 — J.A. A. Levasseur, 39, has been appointed agricultural commodity officer with the Markets and Merchandising Section of CDA's Poultry Division here.

Mr. Levasseur, a native of Ottawa, succeeds E. D. Bonnyman, who retired recently.

Graduating in agriculture from Macdonald College, Mr. Levasseur joined CDA in 1953 as a poultry inspector at Ottawa where he subsequently became supervising inspector for Eastern Ontario. In 1959 he was appointed supervising inspector for Central Ontario, with headquarters at Toronto.

In 1961 he was promoted to poultry officer at Toronto, from which post he moves to Ottawa. As agricultural commodity officer, he will assist with price support programs, poultry market information, and with promotion of poultry products.

(News item from the Information Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa)

VALUE AND MANAGEMENT OF PASTURES

On dairy farms, nothing is more important than first-class pastures. In fact, Mr. E. Houle of the Farm Management Division of the Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization estimates that about two thirds (or between 60 and 70%) of Quebec's annual milk yield is produced during the grazing season. Moreover, the digestible nutrients produced in the form of grasses and legumes cost only one third or even one quarter as much as those furnished by fodder roots and grain crops.

But grass does not thrive without any help: an early application of manure will stimulate the growth of young forage plants both in improved and seeded pastures. In addition, the following essential factors should never be neglected: drainage, liming, proper choice of seed mixture, upkeep and management and, last but not least, suitable use of commercial fertilizers.

If a pasture is treated in the fall with 20% superphosphate or 0-20-20, it should also be given an application of nitrogen in the following spring, for example 100 to 125 pounds per acre of sodium nitrate or sulphate of ammonia, or 100 pounds per acre of urea. Pastures not fertilized in the fall may be treated with 300 to 400 pounds per acre of 4-24-20 in spring. There is no need to worry about having too much grass in the pasture because it can be cut and used for silage or hay.

The possibility of drought and short-

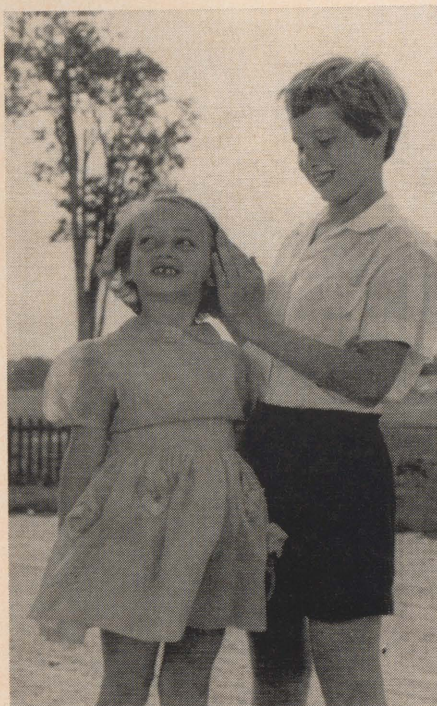
age of pasture around the middle of July often has to be faced. For this reason dairy farmers are advised to sow oats about the beginning of June to provide enough green stuff to see the herd through the grazing season.

It is deplorable to find so many

farmers still using the most neglected and least fertile part of their farms for pasture. But one does not meet with any farmers who ever regret having spent money to improve their pastures, because that is the key to success in dairy farming.

The Farm of Mr. Gerald Griffin

A big family on a big farm at Ile Grand Calumet in Pontiac County



Colleen Griffin to Carmel: "Don't move your head just as your picture is being taken, and whatever you do, don't make faces."

THIS PROPERTY of 420 acres is made up of three farm lots, two adjoining one another and the third about a mile away. The cultivated land, about 150 acres in extent, is very fertile and on the whole level except for slight undulations and a ravine. For want of sufficiently generous fertilizer treatment, the grain, hay crops, and pasture plants are doing somewhat too moderately.

On the other hand, the potatoes and an eight-acre field of corn have a very fine appearance; this is because they have had the benefit of an application of fertilizer as well as manure. Similar treatment would have a comparable effect on all the other fields; the alfalfa would yield two cuttings a year; the

oats would produce 50 bushels or more per acre, and the stocking rate of the pastures could be increased to one animal unit per acre. Even as things are, however, the size of the crops is quite respectable considering the fairly large area under cultivation. A rotation of six years is practised: two years in hay, two in grain, and two in pasture.

The cattle are grade or cross-bred, except for the Holstein bull. The 25 cows show noteworthy dairy type but they are not on test. The 45 young cattle, ranging from a few months to two years of age, are in good flesh. The heifers are of good type and conformation and will replace their mothers to good advantage.

A disastrous fire recently destroyed the barn, which has been replaced by an imposing building beneath whose arching roof there is ample storage space for big crops. Corn is ensiled in a horizontal silo.

A comfortable poultry-house lodges 50 White Leghorn laying birds. In July, a piggery was being built. The swine include three sows and a number of piglets. In 1962, about fifty hogs were marketed. There are two work horses.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffin have eleven children — four daughters and seven sons. Two of the sons work in Ottawa, one works with his father on the farm, and the other four are at school. Of the daughters, the eldest is married, another is at University studying for her B.A.; one helps her mother at home, and the youngest, who is five years old, will be starting school next year. Both French and English are spoken in this fine family.

From "Le Mérite Agricole 1963".

This page supplied in the interests of the Family Farm by the Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization.

ARDA in the Province of Quebec

by David Ratté

Agronome, L.S.S. Ec.

THE AGRICULTURAL and Rural Development Act of the Province of Quebec was assented to on the 26th of June, 1963.

When introducing the Bill, the Hon. Alcide Courcy, Minister of Agriculture and Colonization, recalled the recommendations of the Senate Committee of Inquiry into Land Use in the following terms:

"The Senate Committee wished this collaboration to be based on the principle that both the provincial and the local authorities should share the important task of determining the problems and needs of the various regions, and of conceiving, planning, and working out suitable programmes for them".

In the Province of Quebec, the Lower St. Lawrence Economic Planning Committee (le Comité d'orientation Economique du Bas St-Laurent — C.O.E.B.), which has been in existence for a number of years, provided a starting point for the study of the Lower St. Lawrence and Gaspé pilot-region. This Committee already had a long list of projects which has been a valuable source of inspiration for subsequently appointed ARDA co-ordinators.

Quebec, like the other provinces, made an agreement with Ottawa in October 1962, and proceeded to establish an ARDA Rural Development Service. This Service consists of a co-ordinator and a staff of assistants. Responsibility for administering the programme rests with the Department of Agriculture and Colonization. The Hon. Alcide Courcy is the negotiating Minister with respect to the joint ARDA plan.

In the following year (July 1963) the provincial Cabinet set up a Standing Committee on Resource Development (le Comité Permanent d'aménagement des ressources — C.P.A.R.). This Committee is responsible in an advisory capacity to the Cabinet Planning Committee (le Comité ministériel de planification — C.M.P.) and serves the negotiating Minister in a consultative role regarding choice of projects. In a similar capacity, it also serves the Minister of Resources, the Hon. René Lévesque, representative for Quebec, on

the Canadian Council of Resource Ministers.

COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The Standing Committee on Resource Development is made up of eight officials, mostly Deputy Ministers or their representatives. Attached to it are five technical and scientific sub-committees, namely for: —

1. Water
2. Lands
3. Forests
4. Photographic surveying
5. Regional development.

In addition, a Departmental coordinating committee links the Standing Committee on Resource Management with the Government Departments, and the Departments with ARDA.

The Province of Quebec has already concluded with Ottawa five agreements, the subjects of which are as follows: —

1. **Researchers to be carried out concerning land use and rural rehabilitation.**
2. **The study of biological and material resources:** forests, soils and their suitabilities, commercial and recreational fisheries, the condition of agricultural enterprises, road systems, social and economic studies.
3. **Soil and water conservation:** Authorization for extensive drainage and soil-protection projects; water-courses, drainage systems, dams, dikes, wind-breaks, and other means of preventing erosion.
4. **More effective use of marginal and sub-marginal lands:** acquisition of land by the Province for planting trees, or as public places of recreation. Establishment of hunting territories and community blueberry lands. The establishment of an experimental sugar-bush at Mount Orford is also provided for in this agreement.
5. **Creation of community pastures:** the provincial ARDA administration has so far approved only one such project, at an estimated cost of

\$77,000 or less. This enterprise is in the nature of a trial and will provide experience.

PROJECTS

The great majority of projects have originated outside the administration.

By the 25th of June 1964, 142 projects had been submitted to the Standing Committee on Resource Development. Of these, 24 did not come under the provisions of ARDA, 27 have been accepted, and 28 refused. The remainder (some of which will involve new Departmental policies) are being studied.

Some of the largest projects originated in Departmental committees, viz:

Five-year plan for the harnessing of the Chaudière River;

Improvements to provincial nurseries;

Research and census in the North Shore region of the Lower St. Lawrence;

Construction of salt-sheds, ice-plants, and other facilities connected with the fishing industry;

Establishment of a number of blueberry lands;

A large number of projects concerning regional development.

In the pilot-region comprising the Lower St. Lawrence, the Gaspé, and the Magdalen Islands, studies are being carried out by the Eastern Quebec Planning Bureau Inc. (le Bureau d'aménagement de l'Est du Québec Inc. — B.A.E.Q.) This Bureau is responsible for a comprehensive plan which must be ready for 1966.

In the valley of the Rouge River and in the Brome-Stanstead area a programme of research is under the direction of the Technical Society for Regional Development (la Société Technique d'Aménagement Régional).

The Minister of Agriculture and Colonization has delegated the scientific and technical supervision of research on regional development to the Stand-

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ing Committee on Resource Development, whose Sub-committee for Regional Development keeps in close touch with the Eastern Quebec Planning Bureau and the Technical Society for Regional Development, thus ensuring their collaboration with the governmental administration.

As already described, the Standing Committee on Resource Development is responsible to the Cabinet Planning Committee, one of whose chief tasks will be to co-ordinate the activities of the Departments engaged in the development of resources, and thereby to put a stop to duplication of research and effort. The Cabinet Planning Committee will study projects submitted to ARDA and to Government Departments. There will thus be coordination and liaison between the Departments and concerted action.

CONCLUSIONS

The problems in Quebec are mainly connected with marginal farms and use of unproductive land.

Roughly one third of the money allotted so far by ARDA has been for land drainage. As a result of a change in the responsibility for financing such works, this proportion is likely to diminish.

The use of unproductive lands will receive a large part of the attention of ARDA personnel. In this connection, the procedure involved will include locating and defining such lands and re-allocating them to alternative uses. This will involve purchases, sales and, when advantageous, regrouping of farms.

IS HEART DISEASE RELATED TO DIET?

It is believed that ischaemic heart disease, due to the poor arterial supply of heart muscle, is related to a high concentration of the important substance cholesterol in the blood, and a high content of saturated fat in the diet. People in the poorer countries eat little fat, have a low cholesterol level and show less ischaemic heart disease than those in the western countries. However, in a survey of 99 bank staff members, aged 40-55, a combined team of doctors from the London Hospital, Middlesex Hospital and St. George's Hospital, has now shown, surprisingly,

that there is no correlation between diet and cholesterol in individuals (J.N. Norris and others, *British Medical Journal*, No. 5330, p. 571).

For example those who ate less than three oz. of fish per week had a similar range of cholesterol levels to those who ate more than nine oz.; likewise neither alcohol nor egg consumption could be correlated with a high or low cholesterol level.

The team used a digital computer in an attempt to demonstrate any more complex effects of the diet on the cholesterol level, such as the effect of various combinations of foodstuffs. Again, however, no statistically significant correlation was found.

As the upper limit of cholesterol level in healthy men is thought to be about 180 mg per 100 cu. cm of blood plasma and nearly all the 99 men studied were above this level, the workers suggest that a dietary threshold might exist above which fat intake does not affect the cholesterol level. As all the men in the survey had a high fat intake, the expected correlation would be obscured. Nevertheless, as far as heart disease is concerned, it matters not only whether the cholesterol level is above or below 180 mg per 100 cu. cm but also how far it is above this figure.

Stressing the lack of genetic and environmental data on "high blood cholesterol", the authors believe that even if diet affects the cholesterol level within a certain range, causes of the excess level other than diet must be sought. (From "New Scientist", 11 April, 1963)

SOIL DRAINAGE

DRAINAGE OF THE SOIL has always played an essential part in the production of abundant harvests. Farmers have always had to control the quantity of water available to their crops. In general, a method of drainage must be used that is well suited to local conditions, including soil texture, precipitation, and the lie of the cultivated land.

For almost fifty years, the Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization has made considerable efforts to encourage farmers to drain their fields properly. These efforts have taken the form of drainage contests, farming compositions, provincial demonstration farms, and instruction by county agronomes — all designed to convince people of the harmful and often disastrous effects of an uncontrolled excess of water on the fertility of the soil.

To the question whether real progress has been made in this matter,

Mr. Paul Robert replies that although many farmers can say that their drainage problems are definitely solved, it is no secret that there is still a lot of work to be done to bring about adequate drainage of our arable land. If drainage is such an important factor in successful modern farming, it is important all farmers should realize the fact and set to work to accomplish this fundamental land improvement, so profitable on a well-tilled farm.

With the coming of powerful tractors and heavy agricultural machinery, **efficient drainage is becoming more and more necessary.** For, while the use of such machines takes a great deal of the drudgery out of farming operations and enables a farmer to handle much more land than before, it has also appreciably raised costs of production per acre. In view of this, it is senseless to run the risk of getting poor crops, losing part of the fertilizer and amendments applied to the soil, endangering the quality of the food to be harvested and wasting a great deal of energy and seed on poorly drained fields.

A good, properly situated ditch, or a few feet of tile can sweeten the soil at the foot of a slope, drain a troublesome spot, or make firm a boggy valley, and thus help to ensure a good crop. On level land, the so-called "Richard" method of ploughing (as described in Bulletin 149, "Farming for Profit", published in the Department of Agriculture and Colonization) with well-made and well-placed water furrows may prove very profitable, but it will never replace systematic tile drainage.

It is surprising how many times the tractor has to pass over the same piece of ground in the course of a season: if the ground suffers from excess of moisture, what about the damage done to plant by the heavy and repeated load? How many pastures, hay-fields, and grain-fields have been cut up by the wheels of tractors, hay balers, or combines during the growing seasons of 1961 and 1962. If, in addition, it were possible to reckon the amount of grain lost through delayed sowing of wet land in some years, we should have quite a thought-provoking total.

Drainage works should be carried out when the soil is dry and easy to work. Thus, it is advisable to take advantage of the time between haying and harvest to improve the drainage of fields which will be ploughed in the fall. This would be an excellent way of ensuring a good crop next year and in the years to come. Such efforts would be fully compensated, for effective drainage is a basic factor in successful farming.

This page supplied in the interests of the Family Farm by the Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization.



The Better Impulse

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE
WOMEN'S INSTITUTES OF QUEBEC



ABBOTSFORD ANNIVERSARY

Charter members of Abbotsford W.I. who attended the Anniversary Luncheon are: seated, from left to right: Mrs. M. Crossfield, Mrs. A. Buzzell, Mrs. M. Honey, Miss M. Marshall: standing — Mrs. W. Rayson, Mrs. R. Coates, Mrs. R. Thomson, past provincial president, Mrs. P. Gould.

Each founding member was presented with a corsage in W.I. colours, blue and gold. Two charter members were unable to attend, Mrs. A. Crossfield, and Mrs. P. Rowell (Peterborough, Ont.). Mrs. Rowell and the late Mrs. T. Ross were the first to bring the organization of the branch up for discussion, 35 years ago.

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE FWIC ADDRESS

Members writing to the National Office, please take note of the correct address as follows:

Federated Women's Institutes of
Canada,
Room 28,
46 Elgin Street,
OTTAWA 4, Ontario.

QWI PINS

Please note that the price of the QWI pins has gone up. Anyone ordering pins will pay \$1.75. These pins are ordered from the treasurer, Mrs. G. E. Cascadden, Box 371, Lennoxville.

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS

In a letter received from Mrs. Lewis, Canadian Save the Children, the QWI are complimented on the wonderful Christmas Stockings which they sent in — 861 of them, and they 'were better made, better filled and very attractive' said Mrs. Lewis. She asks that they be sent so that they will reach her by the first of June, if possible. And also please don't send them express col-

lect as they have no fund to cover such charges.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS

Miss Janet McQuat, QWI Technician and Demonstrator, wishes to thank all the QWI members who sent her cards and notes during her illness. She received so many it would be quite impossible for her to answer each and every one.

FROM YOUR SECRETARY

The cards and letters were a bright and cheery spot in her hospital life. They really help. Thank you.

THE LATE MRS. FRED LUSK

Mrs. Fred Lusk, the former Annie Scott, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. M. Scott of Lakefield, Que., was educated in local and Lachute High Schools and was a teacher for many years. She married the late Mr. Lusk in 1899, and resided on their farm in Luskville, until her death on February 5, 1965, at the age of 97. Mrs. Lusk was interested in anything that might

benefit country women, and in 1916, she joined the Breckenridge W.I. She served in many capacities in her own branch and county, and in 1925 she became the third Provincial President, holding that office until 1927.

Mrs. Lusk followed the progress of the W.I. through the years, and encouraged and appreciated advances in rural life and agriculture. She was always interested in the W.I., in the church, and in community affairs.

HISTORY OF I.C.A.

As the next Conference of the Associated Country Women of the World will be held in Dublin, Ireland, let us start learning something about the country.

The following is from an information leaflet sent us by the Irish Countrywomen's Association:

A famous Frenchman once said: — "There is one thing more powerful than all the armies in the world: that is an idea whose time has come."

The history of rural women's movements is still a short one but from tiny beginnings it swept onwards so that inside 50 years it already embraced over six million women all over the world, a sisterhood united in hopes and fears, in common ideals and work and undivided by race or colour or creed.

This idea for which the time had come was born of the personal tragedy of one woman: in the closing years of the last century a child died in Canada and it was found that his death had been caused by a milk-borne disease. It must take a fine character to rise above grief and out of it to create something of lasting good for others and we salute that Canadian mother who did just that.

She called together her neighbours and discussed with them ways in which a recurrence of her own tragedy could be prevented. From their co-operation over the provision of a safe milk supply they went on to other things and the idea spread with the speed of their own prairie fires.

It is always said that Ireland is 50 years behind the times, but, on this occasion, at least, she was not. For just before the turn of the century Sir Horace Plunkett, while in Canada, was struck by the strength and potential value of these groups of rural women, co-operating in matters of common interest, and he brought the idea home.

(continued on page 20)

THE MONTH WITH THE W.I.

ARGENTEUIL : ARUNDEL held written contest on Canadian Geography and Current Events, and named well-known figures; held Valentine party. **BROWNSBURG** heard account of interesting W.I. meeting attended by County President, Mrs. Stephens, near London, Ont.; film entitled Quality of a Nation shown; answered roll call in French; donated to Grace Dart Hospital; catered for wedding of a member's daughter. **DALESVILLE-LOUISA** entertained Mrs. Stephens who brought members up to date on W.I. work; roll call answered by ideas on what to do in different emergencies. **FRONTIER** heard talk by publicity convener on Retirement at Age 65 — its Good and Bad Features; donated to Children's Hospital and to Lachute High School; held contest on news events; worked on County plays. **JERUSALEM-BETHANY** named floral emblem or flower of a Province or a Country; members are making a quilt. **UPPER LACHINE EAST END** heard talk by Mrs. Floyd Bradford, School Nurse; word contest on diseases held; donated to Senior Citizen's Committee.

BONAVENTURE : BLACK CAPE sponsored very successful Impromptu Concert, in High School; held candy sale; mended and rebound school library books. **MATAPEDIA** donated \$50 to school lunch fund; purchased vitamins for use in local schools; held farewell party for Mrs. DesJardines, branch treasurer for several years, at which she was presented with a Dutch Oven; sold a doll as money-raising project.

BROME : ABERCORN: each member read a poem by a Canadian poet. **SOUTH BOLTON** heard Mr. Patterson speak on the purpose of Family, Inc., recently introduced to Brome County; held home card parties, for pleasure and to raise branch funds; roll call gave Happy Foot suggestions and 2¢ per inch of foot. **SUTTON** made and wore Valentines; read poems, some of which were original; 3 quilt tops and 10 pair socks made by branch and donated to Red Cross; assisted at Blood Donor Clinic.

CHATEAUGUAY - HUNTINGDON : AUBREY - RIVERFIELD heard talk by Mrs. Lamb, Home Economics teacher, on pastry and cake making

with some common sense and worthwhile tips; In Memoriam read for the late Mrs. Annie Gruer; valentines sent to Lachine Children's Home; jams sent to local convalescent home. **DUNDEE :** heard talk by Agronomist Leon Beaudin concerning the Quebec Farm Beautification Contest; clothing collection for Unitarian Service; donated soup to augment school lunch program. **FRANKLIN CENTRE** held a turkey supper at home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Lewis, after which bingo and cards were played; held a card party. **HEMMINGFORD** held open meeting, attended by teachers from both schools, and Cercle de Fermieres members, and interested mothers, who saw movie on Cuisenaire Method of Calculation, and demonstration by first grade teacher in her classroom; card party and food sale advertised over Channel 3, Burlington, Vt.; used stamps sent to Red Cross; used Christmas cards sent to missions; donated clothes to burned out family. **HOWICK** heard Mrs. J. R. Younie review "The Sojourners" by Rawlings; entertained Mrs. H. Robertson, County President who talked on the W.I.; roll call answered by giving an important event of 1964; displayed and tasted a Cherry Coffee Cake; written spelling match and a Valentine contest held. **HUNTINGDON** held an excellent demonstration by Mrs. George Caza on upholstering a bedroom slipper chair, covering, tying springs, applying webbing, padding etc.; Valentines sent to sick and elderly persons.

COMPTON : CANTERBURY gave out yarn to be knit for Children's Home; held sale of donations; worked on branch cook book. **COOKSHIRE** saw slides on Newfoundland; heard talk on new educational system; donated to Coupon #367, Adelaide Hoodless Home, and Sherbrooke Hospital. **EAST CLIFTON** heard talk on Regional School system; held Dutch auction; donated to cemetery fund. **SAWYERVILLE** had demonstration on the making of plastic foam flowers, with each member making one; held cooking terms contest. **SCOTSTOWN** received a gift calendar from Calstock W.I., England.

GATINEAU : AYLMEER EAST met in Ottawa for luncheon, then toured the Bell Telephone Building which proved most interesting. **BRECKENRIDGE** sent groceries to burned out

family; held White Elephant Sale. **EARDLEY :** Mrs. E. Watson, past county president, showed slides and commented on her recent trip to the British Isles and parts of Europe; roll call gave suggestions on how to make meetings more interesting; donated to Community Disaster Fund; held cooking sale. **KAZABAZUA :** health and welfare articles from "The Canadian Nurse" and "Canada 1959" were read. **RUPERT :** heard paper on Nutrition at Home; held quiz on Education - past and future; exchanged recipes. **WAKEFIELD :** Miss Judith Fathergill, Australian Registered Nurse, entertained members with coloured slides of Fiji Islands, China and Japan. **WRIGHT :** Publicity convener gave outline of her duties, read highlights from the Federated News; read 2 articles from "Greg's Choice" (by Gregory Clark) on the effect publicity has on the average citizen; 5 charter members present at this 26th Anniversary.

MEGANTIC : INVERNESS priced and sold two parcels of remnants; each member given one yard of denim to see what she could make; roll call named different cuts of meat and the proper method for cooking. **KINNEAR'S MILLS** held auction sale.

MISSISQUOI : COWANSVILLE discussed aims of County Centenary Project; roll call answered by simple health rules; articles read on preventive measures against disease and potential disaster; money voted to support of their adopted child in Jamaica; used Christmas cards collected; demonstration on making of hooked wool rugs. **DUNHAM :** renewed Federated News; held a card party, and sold a quilt; for roll call, each member made up a Valentine verse; donated to Save the Children Fund. **FORDYCE** held contest on Welfare, Health and Nutrition; gifts collected to be sent to Cancer patients; knitted booties made for Cecil Butler Home. **STANBRIDGE EAST** heard an article on "Facts and Fancies" a satire on hoarding; remnants sold.

MONTCALM : RAWDON celebrated its 30th Anniversary with a very successful dinner, with members and friends present; entertainment provided by husband of a Dutch member who showed coloured slides of Holland, also Wild Bird Life and scenes taken in Rawdon; held successful Tea and Sale;

coloured slides of western United States were shown at another meeting, which was well attended in spite of 30° below zero temperature; each member furnished a baby or childhood photo, and contest held to see how many could be identified; handwork, old and new, with some pieces of old jewellery and some old Montreal Stars made an interesting exhibit.

PAPINEAU : LOCHABER collected old woollen materials to be cut and sewn into quilts for Unitarian Service.

PONTIAC : CLARENDON heard paper on status of married women in Quebec, based on Bill 16. **FORT COULONGE** had guest speaker telling of a caravan tour taken to several places, including Scotland; contest on "lament of the woodbox". **QUYON** held contest on prominent Canadians; had recreation period during meeting; purchased bedding for needy family. **STARK'S CORNERS** auctioned a mystery parcel. **WYMAN-ELMSIDE** had a nurse give talk on First Aid in the Home; collected cotton for cancer dressings.

QUEBEC : VALCARTIER held health and welfare contest; held euchre to raise funds.

RICHMOND : CLEVELAND: each member made a pomander with apples and spices. **DENISON MILLS** auctioned mystery parcel; donated candy to Dixville Home, and March of Dimes. **GORE** for roll call named a vitamin and the food in which it was found; contest on scrambled words on different diseases; cancer dressings handed in; cheque for \$90.00 received as profit for year's sale of stationery and greeting cards. **MELBOURNE RIDGE** for roll call made original Valentines; held contest on trees; donated to Save the Children Fund, and gave financial aid to student nurse. **RICHMOND HILL** brought articles to sell and realized fair sum. **RICHMOND YOUNG WOMEN** sold material donated by Celanese Co.; contest on Company names. **SHIPTON** made pads for cancer patients; held contest on homemade bread, won by Mrs. Saffin. **SPOONER POND** held contest on Nutrition; making of hats out of something found in the kitchen produced some wonderful creations.

SHEFFORD : GRANBY HILL held discussion on problems of the small farmer, and on education; held sale of materials and articles. **GRANBY WEST :** Mrs. Lacroix of the Cancer Society showed two very informative films on cancer in women; followed by address and a question and answer period; dinner and social evening held, an



by Norma E. Holmes

Dear Min :

Just finished dusting. How I hate dust. I am sure, as any good psychiatrist would say, it all goes back to my childhood. Father had decided an old barn should be cleaned and white-washed inside, so, in my zeal and ignorance, I offered to do it for ten dollars (the cleaning, that is). I wore out two brooms and I can still see those dust-filled, ages-old draperies hanging from the beams. So now I'm allergic to dust. As an old neighbor used to say, "I'm taking my stand on that." It's a nice thought anyway when allergies are so fashionable. When I saw the Spanish moss in Florida all it looked like to me was trees draped in dust-filled cobwebs. If I lived there I would spend my days sweeping them down.

Herb is still with (?) us. Wendy was playing with our dog Towser (a "hardy mixture" John calls him). May-be playing isn't the right word. She was sitting on him and turning his ears wrong side out. Herb stopped, perhaps I should say, ceased moving. "I hadda dawg once," said Herb. Breathlessly we waited, but apparently that was all, or it was just too much effort. Dad says if he teases him he feels he is contributing to juvenile delinquency.

Dad played a trick on Charlie though. Charlie was trying to shut Towser in the shed for the night and the dog kept running around the house just ahead of him. As Towser went by

Dad popped him in and shut the door and he let Charlie make a few more rounds, running and swearing, before he stopped him.

I undertook a — or at least the beginning of a — nature lesson with Wendy today. She said, "That's a robin." and I said "Yes, she is going to build a nest. She takes pieces of hay and twigs and makes a nest and then there are eggs in the nest..." She looks at me with those big eyes. "For Wendy to eat," says she. End of beautiful lesson in nature. I am afraid she won't take after my brother Ted who tamed everything on the farm. He had a pet chicken and a crow and a drake that followed him around like a dog.

We are going to plant a big field of potatoes this year. They tell us that there are an awful lot of "nutrients" (is that the word?) in potatoes that we really shouldn't be without. So the Lowmans are going to eat praties.

I remember once father planted ten acres and I, always on the lookout to make a little money, offered to weed them for ten cents a row. It was a very hot day and my sister and a friend sat in the shade on the lawn and every time I got to the end of a row they would call out to ask how I was doing. I wonder if Jackie and Wendy... No, somehow I don't think it would work.

Eloise.

annual event for members and their families, with Mrs. Ossington as special guest. **WATERLOO-WARDEN** held contest on citizenship.

ROUYN - NORANDA : NORANDA had small attendance at their meeting because temperature was 45 degrees below zero — those who braved the cold, enjoyed the meeting; collected used Christmas cards to be sent to

missions; catered to 50 members of basketball teams in Noranda for tournament at Noranda Recreation Centre.

SHERBROOKE : ASCOT : Mrs. Vaughan spoke on African Violets, and answered questions of members; CAC booklet on cooking utensils studied and discussed. **BELVEDERE :** slides were shown of the unveiling of the W.I. Plaque at Dunham, the International

Ploughing Match, and a tour of the Gaspe coast; donated to Lennoxville Calf Club. BROMPTON ROAD held publicity contest. LENNOXVILLE discussed plans and revised prize list for annual school fair; Cancer Society asked for volunteers to knit articles for patients (socks, gloves, shoulder wraps, afghans, bed socks) MILBY members visited Grace Christian Home for the Aged, and distributed gifts; prizes given to Waterville and Lennoxville schools; held white elephant sale.

STANSTEAD: AYER'S CLIFF: sent groceries to needy family; held Valentine auction. BEEBE had a talk on the Management of a Nursing Home by Mr. R. Gabeil, owner and manager of the Patenaude Rest Home, Derby, Vt.; held successful card party. HATLEY discussed the question of Regional schools. HATLEY CENTRE donated to Frank Woodard Memorial Fund; held home remedy contest. STANSTEAD NORTH had demonstration of smocking, given by a member; letter read from W.I. friend in England; discussion on Regional schools; used cards, scrapbooks and glue collected and sent to Maplemount Home. **WAYS' MILLS:** it is noted with regret that this branch disbands because of small membership, after 50 years of active work. TOMIFOBIA discussed regional schools, with the suggestions made that a guidance counsellor should be employed, and that a separate bus carry smaller children; held discussion on birth control; worked on scrapbooks.

VAUDREUIL: HARWOOD had as guest speaker, Mr. Jacques Besner, who spent two years in the Congo with the Red Cross; he told of the work of the Society and many interesting things about the country and its people; held enjoyable and profitable card party; chartered a bus and visited the new Lakeshore General Hospital, making complete tour of the ultra-modern building.

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ment he said: "We men can see to the better farming and better business, but only you women can see to the better living." So the Society of United Irishwomen was formed. To quote again from Sir Horace "The United Irishwomen are not a branch or department of the Irish Agricultural Organization Society; they are an independent Association, but they come in to complete our work at the point where we believe it to be at once most important and most imperfect."

Even so it did not start with a flourish of trumpets: a small flower

show at Bree in Co. Wexford provided the funds for the formation of the first branch but the idea caught on and soon there were many branches scattered here and there all over the country.

One of our noted Diplomats, who remembers these beginnings, said recently that he thought that insufficient tribute is paid by the present generation to the courage and vision of the founders of this movement: he reminded us that not everyone saw a possibility of success in it. Many predicted failure. "The days of the Land League," they said, "are too fresh in people's memories;" "women are being asked to step outside the traditions of their time;" "no good will come of it;" "they are seeking the impossible." But, as someone once remarked "the impossible only takes a little longer."

Thus Ireland took her place among the leaders of the rural women's movements. The Martha Society of Finland was the first in Europe, to be followed by the Society of United Irishwomen.

But there were difficult days ahead for it and it is proof of its underlying strength that it survived at all. Its steady growth was halted, first by the disruption caused by the 1914-18 war and subsequently by the civil war. Indeed at one stage even meetings were impossible, for, to quote from the then President of the Society, "five little girls sitting down to knit was regarded as a seditious assembly."

The number of branches dwindled almost to vanishing point (as low as eight at one time) but the spark still survived until in 1926, to quote AE (George Russell) "the Society of United Irishwomen emerged like an emaciated kitten among a herd of elephants."

Change in name

But its proud name was to be changed: for even the Society's firm adherence to its own rule of "no politics" did not prevent it from coming under suspicion of being connected in some way with the new political organization formed about that time with an almost identical name. So, with infinite regret it was decided that the old name must give place to the new — The Irish Countrywomen's Association.

The new Association started its independent life in April 1935, its only tangible assets being the sum of £137 5s.8d. bequeathed to it by its predecessor. But in its intangible assets, the devotion, vision and energy of its members, both those who came on from the United Irishwomen and those who followed after, it was, and it is rich indeed.

Now we must go back in time to look at things that were to have far-reaching effects upon the organization.

In 1929 a small group of members met to spend a short while camping on Slievenamon "Mount of the Women" (what an apt choice), there to exchange their skills, to sing and read together, and to enjoy making plans for the future.

These resulted in the inauguration the following year of our first Summer School, which was held every year afterwards for twenty-six years, with only one break during World War II. It grew and it grew until it had to be run in two sessions to accommodate all.

At first these Summer Schools were something of a picnic; an empty house was taken, each member brought her own china, cutlery and bedding and slept on straw-filled mattresses on the floor.

How well some of us remember in particular that beautiful but ghostly mansion we were lent, where we spent an austere but happy time, the only shadows being those that were fast gathering over Europe. It was a memorable Summer School for two things; we had a professional producer for our plays and we were promoted to camp beds.

As our members grew, however, we had to abandon these happy-go-lucky ways and take a school or college to accommodate us all; we seldom went to the same place twice and we always found a new crop of Guilds springing up in each place we visited.

In an Association where so many have done so much it may seem invidious to pick out individual names, but one exception must be made.

Debt to Miss Franks

To Miss Lucy Franks we owe a debt beyond repaying for it was mainly due to her unflagging efforts that the Association survived at all. When its future looked dark, her courage, optimism and steadfastness never failed and our strong position today is in large measure due to the way she held the fragments together when they looked like disintegrating.

When the Association was firmly established she turned her eyes to wider horizons; in the early '30's she became interested in the growing demand for a World federation of rural women's organizations and when this became a reality with the formation of the Associated Countrywomen of the World she attended its first Conference in Stockholm in 1933. An illuminated parchment names Miss Franks among "the 100 women whose vision and generosity made possible the formation of the ACWW." She was President of the ICA for many years and on her retirement was the first holder of its title of honour — Buan Chara.

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Q.W.I. Semi-Annual Board Meeting

THE EXECUTIVE, Provincial Conveners and County Presidents of the Q.W.I. enjoyed their two-day Semi-Annual Board meeting, which took place in Montreal, February 12 and 13. The meeting was well attended, and members were welcomed by the President, Mrs. E. Ossington. Mrs. T. E. Gilchrist was appointed Recording Secretary for the session in the absence through illness of Mrs. D. Scott. Miss Norma Holmes and Miss Janet McQuat were also absent and wishes for their speedy recovery went from the Board to these staff members.

County Presidents held one session in which they discussed programs, projects and problems of their respective counties. All agreed that this interchange of ideas is most helpful. Suggestions from this meeting will be considered and worked into Q.W.I. plans, if at all feasible. Various methods of raising funds were mentioned, but it was noted that money raising is not the central purpose of the W.I. It was suggested that branches beware of discouraging or scaring off members with too many financial demands. It was urged that branches support first and foremost our own projects — Pennies for Friendship, Lady Aberdeen Scholarship, Adelaide Hoodless Home, Coupon # 367, and the Quebec Service Fund. In their interim reports, Provincial Conveners suggested that Convener Outlines be read again, and that all branches study and follow through some of the many suggested projects. An interesting program is vital to a good meeting, and keeps the branch alert and growing.

Leadership Course

The questionnaire on the **Leadership Course** was well received by the membership, with many branches reporting that the matter was thoroughly discussed, and the completed forms returned. It was evident from the questionnaires returned that the members wish the Leadership Course to be continued, that it be held in May, that it be long enough to really learn something, and that a place be found in the course for instruction in public speaking. Other courses were suggested. When plans are

finalized, all branches will be notified so watch for further details — and choose your best members to attend.

Drama Project

The Q.W.I. **Drama Project** is well underway. Argenteuil County had been asked to organize a play contest, with plays to be put on by certain counties, and staged at Annual Convention. Mrs. C. Stephens, County President, reported that rules for the contest had been drawn up and that several plays are now in rehearsal. Their production at June Convention will be a pleasure to anticipate.

Printing of Programs

In recent years, the **printing of Branch and County programs** has been done by the Q.W.I. Office and our secretary, Miss Holmes. The question of how to handle this in the temporary absence of Miss Holmes was discussed and the following decision reached by the Board: for this year, 1965-66, each county will be responsible for the printing of its own program for the year. Program outlines should be sent, as usual, by each branch, to the County Secretary: the County Executive is then responsible for having the program printed and distributed, locally, instead of through the Office.

United Nations Seminar

The establishment of a bursary to send a student to the Annual **United Nations Seminar** was discussed. Members are asked to consider this recommendation, and to be prepared for further discussion at June Convention. Re-read Mrs. Westover's article in the November 1964 Journal, for a brief look at what is accomplished at this seminar, and how it operates.

Have you purchased your copy of "**The First Fifty Years of the Q.W.I.**"? This interesting historical booklet can be obtained from the Q.W.I. Office (\$1.00 per copy).

Committees

Nominating Committee was appointed: Brome, Bonaventure and Montcalm. Nominations must have the written consent of the person nominat-

ed, and be sent to the chairman, Mrs. W. Westover, Box 295, Sutton, Que., at least two weeks before Annual Convention. Offices vacant are convenerships of Agriculture, Education, Welfare and Health, Publicity (first term completed) and Recording Secretary.

Resolutions Committee was appointed: Chateaugay - Huntingdon, Missisquoi, and Papineau, with resolutions to be sent to Mrs. Harold Robertson, Riverfield, Que.

Dates to Remember

Annual Provincial Convention, June 21-25; and ACWW Triennial Conference in Dublin, Ireland, Sept 14-24, 1965. Mrs. G. McGibbon, First Vice-President, Q.W.I., will attend as the Q.W.I. official delegate. The Q.W.I. acknowledges with many thanks the generous grant of the Quebec Department of Agriculture for this purpose.

A most enjoyable joint session of the Q.W.I. Board and representatives of the **Montreal Council of Women** completed the meetings, with an interesting exchange of information and of projects undertaken. Mrs. R. Swan, President of the M.C.W. outlined the need for the enlargement of the Food and Drug Committee and increased training of staff for this work, and the need for better control and licensing of the production of drugs to protect the consumer.

Mrs. D. Jackson outlined the Mysore project, part of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign and a plan through which Canada sends financial aid and trained instructors to India and South-east Asia countries.

Mrs. J. H. Dunne reported on the continuing need for more adequate training in citizenship for students, to make them more proudly aware of what it means to be Canadian. Mrs. W. Westover outlined the success of the Lady Aberdeen Scholarship, an important and exciting project of A.C.W.W. for practical training in Home Economics. Mrs. C. Jacques, Provincial Convener of Health and Welfare outlined some of the recommendations of F.W.I.C. to the Special Committee on the Aged of the Federal Government, with suggestions on problems and needs.

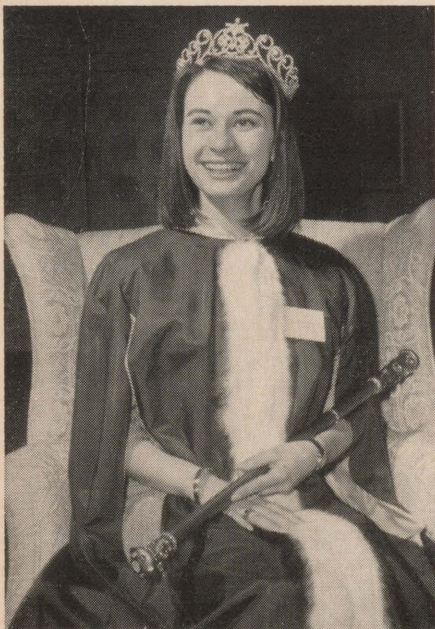


COLLEGE PAGE

MACDONALD ROYAL

The 1965 Macdonald Royal was another successful event. The winning option booth was awarded to Economics for their depiction of the interests of the Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act and its involvement in Canada's "War on Poverty". The College Royal Queen was Miss Heather Calhoun, a student in the Institute of Education from Beaconsfield, Quebec. Grand Champion livestock showman was Miss Jo-Anne Merrill, a second-year Diploma Agriculture student from Bulver, Que.

Macdonald College Royal Queen Miss Heather Calhoun



APPOINTMENT

Professor C. Wayne Hall has been appointed Director of the Institute of Education at Macdonald College. He succeeds Professor D. C. Munroe who is serving as vice-chairman of the Superior Council of Education of the Province of Quebec. Professor Hall has been on the staff of the Institute of Education since 1949.

THE CLASS OF 1965 —

Diploma Agriculture held their graduation exercises on March 26th. Candidates for the Diploma included:

Alfred Alexander	Terrebonne, Que.
Larry Cooke	Arundel, Que.
Marcel Couture	Rougemont
Frederick Dumbrell	Ottawa, Ont.
Donald Finlayson	Ormstown, Que.
Stephen Fitzgerald	St. Hubert, Que.

Economics, the winning booth at the Royal, shows ARDA's war on poverty

